

Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

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national conference 2000
Washington, DC - July 9-12

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Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

Definitions

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Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

★ Consortium agreement-

A written agreement between 2 eligible schools under which the latter school provides all or part of the program for students enrolled in the former school- if the former school gives credit to students enrolled in that part of the program on the same basis as if it provided that program itself.

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★ Contractual Agreement -

A written agreement between an eligible school and an ineligible school or organization under which the ineligible school or organization provides part of the program for students enrolled in the eligible school provided--



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The ineligible school or organization--

- ★ Has not been terminated from participation in the Title IV programs; and**
- ★ Has not withdrawn from participation in the Title IV programs under a termination, show cause, suspension, or similar type proceeding initiated by the school's State licensing agency, accrediting agency, or guarantor, or by the Secretary; and**

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- ★ The eligible school and the ineligible school or organization are not owned or controlled by the same individual, partnership, or corporation; and

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- ★ The eligible school's accrediting agency or the relevant State agency if the eligible school is a public postsecondary vocational educational school specifically determines that the school's agreement meets the agency's standards for the contracting out of educational services

Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

★ Home school-

The school where the student is enrolled in a degree or certificate program

★ Host school-

The school/organization where the student is taking part of his or her program requirements through a consortium/contractual agreement.

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Two plus two program-

- ★ A partnership between a 2- year and 4- year institution to facilitate a student completing the last 2 years of his or her 4- year degree. These programs are also often referred to as “bridge” or “4-year degree completion” programs.

Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

★ Why do schools
enter into
consortium and
contractual
agreements?

Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

- ★ To provide access to additional courses at schools in the same geographical area.
- ★ To allow students to take courses at other schools during the summer.
- ★ To provide access to additional courses via distance learning.
- ★ To allow students to do a semester or year at another school domestically.



Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

To facilitate Institutional Partnerships-

- ★ 2 plus 2 programs
- ★ Study abroad programs
- ★ A group of schools offering an entire degree program via distance learning
- ★ Programs jointly offered by 2 or more schools



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★ **Keep in Mind**

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- ★ A student can only receive Title IV assistance for courses that are required as part of that student's certificate or degree program.



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★ Policy Change

The home school no longer has to accept any “Ds” grades that a student earns at a host school. The home school would though have to count all of of credits the student attempted (including those credits for which the student earned Ds and Fs) towards the maximum 150% satisfactory progress rule.

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- ★ Under a consortium agreement (*not under a contractual agreement*) either school can handle a student's financial aid. (The host school can handle a student's financial aid provided that the student has normal access to all sources of Title IV aid including campus-based funds.)

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Under a consortium or contractual agreement between the home school and the host school or organization the agreement should clearly indicate--

- ★ What the reporting expectations are, and
- ★ Within what time frame those reporting expectation are to be met.

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In addition under a consortium agreement
should clearly indicate--

- ★ Which school will be handling the financial aid.

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2 plus 2 Programs

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Characteristics of the last two years of these programs are that they are frequently-

- ★ Tailored to meet the needs of adult students
- ★ Offered via distance learning
- ★ Offered in the evening only



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- ★ Offered on the site of the 2 year school
- ★ Offered in various places in the community at temporary sites
- ★ Offered right on site of the student's workplace

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Unique Issues with 2 plus 2 programs

- ★ Determining where the student is enrolled at any given time
- ★ Determining what to do if the student is a regular student at a community college and beginning to take some upper level courses at a senior institution



Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

Unique Issues with 2 plus 2 programs

- ★ Determining which school is going to do the financial aid
- ★ Satisfactory academic progress
- ★ Providing the appropriate level of enrollment tracking information to partner schools



Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

★ Consortium/ Contractual Agreement Configurations

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Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

1. Eligible school sends student to another eligible school -

★ The two eligible schools must have a consortium agreement.



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2. Eligible school sends student to complete a portion of his or her program at a non-eligible institution or organization. (Example-- Student is studying nursing at a university and is required to fulfill the practical portion of the program at a local hospital which is not an eligible school.)

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★ **Eligible school must have a contractual agreement with the non-eligible institution or organization.**



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3. Eligible school uses a facilitator to facilitate allowing students to spend a semester or year at another eligible school.

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- ★ Only 3 of these facilitators have had agreements approved by ED-The National Student Exchange (NSE), the College Consortium for International Studies (CCIS), and the International Student Exchange Program (ISEP). If a school is using either of these facilitators then all the school has to do is to sign the agreement with the facilitator. Otherwise the home school must sign an agreement with each school that it plans to send students to.

Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

- 4. Eligible school sends faculty and student to another location (could be a school, organization or just a site.)
(Example--a school offers the last 2 years of a bachelors program on the site of a community college or a school sends its faculty and students to a location abroad.)**
- ★ These sites would be considered additional locations and rules in 34 CFR 600.32 apply.**

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5. A group of schools decide to form a consortium whereby students are allowed to take courses from any of the participating schools. (Example-- the Washington, DC consortium.)
- ★ All schools can sign one long term agreement.



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★ NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING (NPRM)-2000

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Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

Proposals

- ★ To allow agreements between eligible institutions and study abroad organizations to be sufficient for purposes of written agreement purposes.



Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

Proposals

- ★ In the case of an consortium agreement between eligible institutions for any of the institutions participating in the consortium to make Title IV, HEA program calculations without being considered a third-party servicer for the institution at which the student is enrolled as a regular student.

Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

★ Study Abroad Configurations



Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

1. Eligible school sends student to another eligible school in the United States that has a study abroad program in conjunction with an eligible foreign school or organization.

- ★ The two eligible schools in the United States must have a consortium agreement.**
- ★ The school in the United States must have a consortium/contractual agreement.**

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2. Eligible school sends student to a study abroad program at school or organization located abroad.

★ Eligible school must have a consortium or contractual agreement with the foreign school or organization.

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Consortium/Contractual Agreements and Two Plus Two Programs

- ★ 3. Eligible school sends faculty and student to a foreign location (could be a school, organization or just a site.)
- ★ Foreign location would be considered an additional location and rules in 34 CFR 600.32 apply.

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- 4. Eligible school uses a facilitator such to access student abroad programs.**
- ★ ISEP and the College Consortium for International Studies (CCIS) are the only facilitators for study abroad programs whose agreements have been approved by ED. If using any other facilitator, the school must sign an agreement with each school or organization where it is sending students.**